

and the World Defector Accuses Bonn

EAST BERLIN—Ehrendfried Petras, a West German scientist who defected to the East two weeks ago, told a press conference yesterday that West Germany is carrying out research into what can only be offensive bacteriological and chemical warfare.

Petras, 38,* said he had been head of the microbiological laboratory at the Institute of Aerobiology at Grafschäft, West Germany.

All work in this field was carried out under the tight supervision of the West German Ministry of Defense, which recently founded a special ABC (atomic, biological and chemical warfare) study group, he said.

He said similar work was undertaken elsewhere for

the United States Army, particularly by the Institute of Veterinary Physiology at Goethe University, Frankfurt-on-Main, and the Chemical Institute at the University of Bonn.

Among the projects being developed at his institute, which had a staff of 70 to 80, were aerosols containing bacteria and poison with a prolonged effect, Petras said.

Other substances he claimed he tested were newly developed organic phosphorus compounds such as VX, a drop of which applied to an animal's skin brings instant death.

In Bonn, the West German government press office rejected Petras's charges and said the Graf-

schaft Microbiology Institute did defensive research.